

**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region VI
POLLUTION REPORT**

Date: Thursday, June 28, 2007

From: Mark Hayes

Subject: First and Final POLREP

Louisiana Pigment Company

3101 Bayou Dinde Pass, Westlake, LA

Latitude: 30.1968010

Longitude: -93.3072380

POLREP No.:	1	Site #:
Reporting Period:	6/27/2007	D.O. #:
Start Date:	6/27/2007	Response Authority: CERCLA
Mob Date:	6/27/2007	Response Type: Emergency
Demob Date:	6/28/2007	NPL Status:
Completion Date:		Incident Category: Removal Assessment
CERCLIS ID #:		Contract #:
RCRIS ID #:		

Site Description

On June 27, 2007, Louisiana Pigment reported a release of Titanium Tetrachloride from their Pigment production facility at 3101 Bayou Dinde Pass, Westlake La, 70669.

The National Response Center was notified at about 1550 hrs that a release of Titanium Tetrachloride had occurred and a shelter in place had been issued. Louisiana Pigment produces Titanium Dioxide a paint pigment from Titanium ore which produces the Titanium Tetrachloride in the pigment process. At about 1510 hrs a pump failed on the second floor of the Titanium Tetrachloride facility and directly exposed two employee's to the plume of Titanium Tetrachloride. Being an air reactive the plume produced unknown quantities of Hydrochloric Acid and sent the two employee's to a local hospital with inhalation problems and exterior burns to their bodies. One of the employee's was treated and released the other was in more serious condition and was being held in the hospital for treatment.

Current Activities

On June 27, 2007 at 1600 hrs, the EPA dispatched EPA Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) to the scene to access the situation for the EPA, assist in perimeter air monitoring and provide support for responders, such as the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. START-3 arrived on scene at 2050 hrs and made contact with Mike Boudoin who put us in contact with Dr Timothy Hall, the site Plant Manager and Jeff Giles the Plant Operations Manager and (PRP). START was informed by Mr. Giles that the scene had been secured, cleanup was just about finished and that the LDEQ representative had gone home. During the event a shelter in place was issued and a siren sounded to warn local residents, calls were made to adjacent facilities, the City of Westlake Water Treatment Facility and Conoco Coke Plant to request their employee's shelter in place and keep traffic off of Bayou Dinde Pass road due to exposure to the down wind plume of Titanium Tetrachloride. At the time the winds were from the SSE at 3-7 mph. The pump was shut down, the plume dissipated and crews began cleanup. EPA OSC John Martin tasked START-3 R1 Craig Dodd and R2 Joel Shaffer to collect air samples for HCL and confirm that the shelter in place had been lifted. It was determined that the shelter in place had been lifted several hours prior to the arrival of START-3. The START-3 then collected 3 floor samples, 4 perimeter samples and a background sample near Interstate-10 several miles to the NW of the plant site. The HCL samples all read <1 ppm HCL. In addition a multi rae was used to collect (VOC) readings also reading <1 ppm. At 2300 hrs START-3 contacted OSC Martin and informed him of the sample results. OSC Martin then released START-3 to return to Houston.

Planned Removal Actions

None

Next Steps

Prepare report.

Key Issues

Determine residual levels of hydrochloric acid, determine extent of injuries and confirm shelter in place had been lifted.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

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